Gods Sword drawn forth AGAINST Drunkards and Swearers, Blasphemers of Gods Holy Name, Whore-Mongers, Sabbath-Breakers, and other lewd Livers of all sorts.

In which is set forth the Abominable and beastly sin of Drunkenness, with its attendant vices.

In Forty Three terrible Examples of Gods immediate Judgements upon several Drunkards, and other Impenitent Sinners.

Necessary to be had in all Houses, being a caution to Young and Old.

St. Austin saith, *That Drunkenness is a bewitching Devil, a pleasant Poyson, and a sweet Sin.*

St. Origen saith, *That drunkenness maketh a Man a Beast, a strong man weak, and a Wise man a fool.*

By J. Strenock, *B. D.*

Woe to them that rise up early, and sit up late, to follow after strong drink.

Licensed and Entred according to Order.

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1 Corinth. 6. Chap. 9. 10. Verses. *Neither Fornicators, nor Adulterers, nor Thieves, nor Covetous, nor Drunkards shall inherit the Kingdom of God.*

Reader,

TO warn all from the devouring Gulf of vice, wherein so many are ship-wrackt, is the design of this sheet, by shewing various Examples, how God by the Sythe of Divine Vengeance, hath cut down and destroyed many immediately in their sinful Courses: and to warn thee (*Christian Reader*) to beware thou fallest not as these have done before thee; for how dost thou know, O besotted Drunkard, but the next time thou art swilling in the midst of thy Cups of Jollity, Swearing and Blaspheming God's name, thou mayst be cut off, and sent to Eternal flames in the very Act; and added as another terrible Example to these we have here set down, (most of which I had from the certain information of godly Ministers, and the rest observed with grief and terror my self) yet so far, alass hath the Devil bewitched Men to this Sin, masking it under the Title of *Good fellowship, Merry-making*, and the like; that though the holy Scripture says expresly, no *Whoremongers*, *Drunkards*, &c. (without Repentance) shall enter into Heaven: yet instead of repenting for, or leaving of this swinish

swinish sin, they glory in it, and revile not only those that out of Conscience reprove them for it, but also those that out of charity to their Souls warn them against it. I shall represent this Sin in its Nature, by proving it to be most detestable.

1. By Scripture; As you may read in *Joel* 1. vers. 5. *Awake ye Drunkards, and weep and howl all ye drinkers of Wine.* Nahum 1. 10. *And while they are Drunken as Drunkards, they shall be devoured as stuble fully dry.* Deut. 29. 20, 21. and 2. 16. and 20. 11. *This our Son is Stobborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice, he is a Glutton & a Drunkard; and all the men of his City shall stone him with stones that he dye.* Isa. 5. 11. *Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning that they may follow strong drink, that continue until night, till wine inflame them.* And so read *Prov.* 23. 31, 32. of *Belshazzer*, *Dan.* 5. 4, 5. *Heb.* 2. 15. *Luk.* 21. 34. *Rom.* 13. 13. *Gal.* 5. 21. With many more Scriptures against this grievous and beastly Sin of Drunkenness. Secondly, by example.

2. In *Northampton-shire* I lived not many years since at *Desborough* in that County, which I saw with my eyes; as I was walking along, there rides by me on the Road a Man very much in drink, but is he rid he fell off his Horse, and never spake more, but being carried to the next Town, he lay in a sad condition for a day or two, and so dyed.

3. How many have destroyed themselves with immo-

immoderate drinking of *Brandy*, a Drink which hath been lately introduced into *England*, and as much destructive to Mens bodies as any liquor that hath been used for these many years. In the immoderate use of it: how many strong men have been slain by it? Every year scores; I could instance in many, they be so well known; I shall here forbear mentioning of them, but look upon this by way of Caution.

4. Not long since a Souldier in *Salisbury* in the midst of his health, drinking and carousing in a Tavern, drank a Health to the Devil, saying, *That if the Devil did not come and pledge him, he would not belive that there was either God or Devil*; whereupon his companion, striken with horror, hastned out of the Room; and presently after hearing a hideous noise, and smelling a stinking savour, the Vintner ran up into the Chamber, and coming in missed his guest, and found the Window broken, the Iron Bar in it bowed and all bloody, but the man was never heard of afterwards.

5. I saw, saith *Acosta*, two men coming Drunk out of a Tavern, which for a trifle killed one another.

6. A Butcher in *Hastinfield* having heard his Minister enveigh against Drunkenness, in his Cups at the Ale-house fell a jesting and scoffing at the Ministers Sermons, but as he was Drinking Gods hand fell upon him, for the Drink stoping in his Throat, choaked him that he dyed presently.

7. A Vintner that accustomed himself to swearing and Drunkenness, as he was on the Lords day standing at his door with a Pot in his hand to invite Guests, there came suddenly such a Whirlwind as carried him up into the Air, after which he was never seen more.

8. At the Plow in *Barnwel*, neer *Cambridge*, a lusty young man with two of his Neighbours, and one Woman in their company, agreed to drink up a barrel of strong Beer, which accordingly they did; but within four and twenty hours, three of them dyed and the fourth hardly escaped after long Sickness.

9. On the tenth day of *August* 1629. one *Thomas Wilson* a Labourer, a known Blasphemer of Gods name by Oaths and Curses, and given much to drinking and excess, upon a slight occasion moved to displeasure against his Wife, and not willing to do much violence unto her, turned it unto himself, and with a Knife stobbed himself, many of his Friends and Neighbours being present, and so he dyed.

10. A young Gentleman being drunk, as he rod homeward, was thrown by his Horse, and had his Brains beat out with the pomel of his sword.

11. At *Tenby* in *Pembrokeshire*, a Drunkard in his drink fell from an high and steep Rock, whereby he was dashed to pieces.

12. One *Kintner* at *Godmanchester* in 1628. a

known drunkard, and one that in his drink would talk prophanely of Religion and good men, fell from the top of a Pear-tree to the ground, and broke his Neck.

13. At *Kesgrowe* near *Ipswitch*, three Servingmen having been drinking hard, the Hostess would needs perswade them to stay, and drink three Outs, Wit out of their heads, Money out of their Purses, and the drink out of the Barrel; and as she was coming to them with a Pot in her hand, God suddenly struck her sick and speechless, her Tongue also swelling in her head; she never recovered her Speech, but dyed the third day after.

14. One in *Norfolk*, a notorious Drunkard, was drowned in a shallow Brook of water, with his Horse by him.

15. On the eighth of *February*, a company of drunkards, whose names are recorded as followeth: *Adam Gibbens*, *George Kerpel*, *John Koysel*, *Peter Horsdroff*, *John Warner*, *Simon Hoambers*, *Jacob Hermons*, *Hermon Frow*: these eight Drunkards, in contempt of the blessed Sabbath, agreed to go to the Tavern on the Lords day to be merry, and coming to the house of one *Anthony Hodge*, an honest godly man, they called for burnt wine, sack, claret, and what not: the good man refusing to give them any, advised them to go to Church to hear the Word of God: but they all save *Adam Gibbens* refused, saying they loathed that exercise. Whereupon the Host departed, who being gone to Church,

their

they began to curse and ban, wishing he might break his neck ere he returned, and wishing the Devil might break their necks if they went from thence till they had some Wine: whereupon the Devil in likeness of a young man appeared unto them, bringing in his hand a flaggon of wine, and so drank to them, saying, *Good fellows be merry, you shall have wine enough, you seem lusty Lads, and I hope you will pay me well*: who answering said, *they would either pay him, or engage their necks for it, yea, rather then fail, their bodies and Souls*: Thus these men continued drinking and swilling so long, till they could hardly see one another: at last the Devil their Host told them, that now they must pay for all; at which their hearts waxed cold: but the Devil bid them be of good chear, for now they must drink fire and brimstone with him in the pit of hell for ever. At which the Devil brake their necks asunder, and destroyed them. And thus ended these drunkards their miserable days, which may serve for a Cavet for all drunkards for ever.

16. Two examples I have known by Children, that have Murthered their own Mothers when they were in Drink; and one notorious Drunkard, who attempted to kill his own Father, of which being hindred, he fired his Barn, and was after executed.

17. On the third of *August* one *T. Aldred* of *Godmanchester* in *Huntington-shire*, a Butcher, and

an accustomed drunkard, being desired by a Neighbour to unpitch a load of Hay, and being at that time in drink, let his Pitchfork slip out of his hand, and reaching to take it up, fell down with his head foremost, and fell upon his fork Tines, being upwards, and struck himself to the Heart, and so dyed suddenly.

18. One *John Bone* of *Ely* Coachman, being given exceedingly to swearing and drunkenness, drank himself so drunk on the Lords day that he fell out of the Coach-box, and the horses trod him to death. See *Clarks Examples*.

19. A Bayliff of *Hendly* upon the Lords day, being drunk at *Melford*, got upon his horse to ride through the streets, saying, that his horse would carry him to the Devil, and presently his Horse cast him and broke his Neck.

20. A Glasier in *Chancery-Lane* not long since so overcharged his Stomach with wine, that coming home he fell a Vomiting in so extraordinary a manner, that he broke a Vain and dyed two days after.

21. In the Year 1674. some Children near *Lambeth*, on the Lords day, having (as I was credibly informed) got a pot of Drink amongst them, drank a health to the Devil, saying that he was a Son of a whore if he came not to pledge them; but before they had drank round, their invited guest the Devil appeared unto them, ready to pledge

them

them, which almost frighted them out of their Wits, and they lay in a sad condition for some time afterward.

22. So great are these Sins of Drunkenness and Whoredom, and Sabbath-breaking, that it hath brought several persons to ruine, and unto untimely and shameful ends. As for an Example; The young-man that was hanged for murthering his fellow-servant, by name *Thomas Savage*, confessed that the sin of Druhkenness, Whoring, and Sabbath-breaking brought him to that untimely end.

23. Also likwise the Captain and Lieutenant of the Pyrates that were executed in 1674. confessed that Whoring and Ill company brought them to that untimely end.

24. So a young-man that was hanged in Chains in *Kent*, March last 1674. for murdering his sweetheart and her son, confessed at the Gibbet that Drunkenness and Sabbath-breaking brought him to that untimely end.

25. So also the Two Men that Hang in Chains, the one at *Hampstead*, and the other between *Highgate* and *Islington*, this last year, all these confessed at the Gibbet with much grief of heart, that these too common sins of Drunkenness, Whoredom and excess, hath brought them to their untimely ends; how did they with grief of heart exhort all others to take warning by them, who are made publick spectacles of shame and Infamy.

26. And truly there is hardly any of those per-

sons that are executed at Tyburn every month, but confess the same, that those sins have been their ruine. Consider of these things, O thou Drunkard and Whoremonger, and repent before it be too late, and take warning by these sad examples, lest thou fall with these persons, and partake of these punishments.

Think not that those on whom the Tower of Shilo *fell, were greater sinners than ye, but except you repent, you shall likewise perish*, Luke 13.

27. Some Examples against Whoredom and Adultry, both from Scripture and History. 1. It is forbidden of God, as you may read, *Exodus* 20. 14. *Thou shalt not commit Adultry*, Luke 8. 20. *thou knowest the Commandments . . . do not commit Adultry*, complained of in *Jer.* 9. 1. *Rom.* 2. 2. *Prov.* 30. 20. Threatned, *Psal.* 50. 18. Read *Mal.* 3. 5. *Heb.* 13. 4. *Whoremongers and Adulterers will God judge.* Read *Prov.* 6. 26. For by means of whorish women a man is brought to a morsel of bread, and the Adultress will hunt for the precious Life. *Punished*, Levit. 20. 10. *Prov.* 6. 32. *David, the Sword never departed his house*, 1 Sam. 2. 4. *Ely's Sons.* 1 Sam. 2. 4. With many other Scriptures against this beastly and filthy Sin, so much gloried in this Age to their very great shame. See these following Examples, the truth of which I could relate.

28. The *Ægyptians* used to cut off the nose of the Adultress, whereto the Prophet alludes in *Ezekiel*

28. *Anno*

29. *Anno Christi* 1583. In *London* two Citizens were committing Adultry together on the Lords day; who were immediately struck with fire from Heaven in the very act of uncleanness. Their bodies were found half burnt up, and sending forth a most filthy savour.

30. Mr. *Cleaver* reports of one whom he knew, that had committed the act of uncleanness, whereupon he fell into such horror of Conscience, that he hanged himself, leaving it thus written in a Paper, *Indeed* (saith he) *I do acknowledge it to be utterly unlawful for a Man to kill himself, but I am bound to act the Magistrates part, because the Punishment of this Sin is Death.* See more in the book the sins of Whordome and Adultery condemned.

31. Lastly, God will make his *Plagues* wonderful against these sins; his curse will overtake the *Swearer*, and *Blasphemer*, in their Souls and Bodies, persons and prosperity, in their goods and houses: when he begins he will not spare, he will make an end, he will do that that will make the Ears of them that hear to tingle, as is verified in these ensuing Examples.

32. One *Ann Avires*, in the City of *London* Widow, forswore her self for a little money that she was to give for six pound of Tow, at a shop in *Woodstreet*, for which she was suddenly surprized by the judgment of God, and she fell down speechless immediately, and cast that upwards which by na-

ture ſhould be voided downward, and ſo dyed, to the terror of all perjured and forſworn wretches. See *Clarkes* Examples more at large.

33. An *Innekeeper* in the Town of *Rutlingwin*, who received a Budget of money from a paſſenger to keep for him, forſwore the ſame before a Judge, giving himſelf to the Devil if he ſwore falſly, and was (by two that teſtified againſt him, which indeed were two finds of hell) preſently in the preſence of the Judge hoiſted up into the Air, where he was never ſeen more.

34. *Michael* a Blaſphemous Rabin, as he was Banqueting with his companions, fell to Blaſpheming of Chriſt, and his Mother *Mary*, boaſting that he had gotten the Victory over the Chriſtians God: But as he went out of the Room he fell down Stairs and broke his neck. See *Fencilus*.

35. The ſame Author reports what happened in *Megalapole* near to *Voildſtate*, in the time of the celebration of the Feaſt of Pentecoſt, *Anno* 1651. The people being ſet on drinking and carouſing, a Woman in the company commonly named the Devil in her Oaths, till the Devil being ſo oft called upon, carried her through the gate aloft in the Air before them all, and hanging a while in the Air, they found her fallen dead upon the ground without the Town. See *Beards* Theater.

36. I ſhall relate one example more, which hundreds of people near *London* can teſtifie the truth

truth of, in *October* 1675. at Salt-Peter bank near *Well Close*, lately lived a Woman very much addicted to Drunkenness, Swearing, and uncleanness, this Woman as her self afterwards confessed wronged a woman of two shillings, taking it away from her Child, and being taxed with it (forswore it before a Justice) wished the ground to open and swallow her alive if she had it, and at an other time wished that God would damn her if she had it, or knew any thing of it, and now God dealt with her accordingly, for the Devil suddenly possessed her and would several times have choaked her and destroyed her, thus she continued some time in a miserable condition. One Sunday coming to a *Meeting* in *Gravel Lane* she cryed out to the *Minister* as he was going up into the *Pulpit*, *Oh good Master pray for me, pray for me!* Sometimes she would be *lifted* from the *ground*, and then a ratling in her throat, crying out, he chokes me, sometimes she would strive with the Devil with all her strength, and cry, be gone thou Rogue, I will serve God, in this manner she continued all the Prayer, and in the midst of the Sermon she was flung down violently headlong to the ground, and was taken up dead. God grant this may be a warning to all rash forswearers, and other lude livers.

7. A Credible Author relates of a swearing Courtier at *Mans-field*, who in the midst of his blas-

blaſphemous Oaths, was taken up and carried away by the Devil.

38. The German Hiſtory tells us, that at *Tubinga* a deſperate Boy deviſed new Oaths that were not Common in uſe. But the Lord ſent a Canker, or ſome worſe diſeaſe, that eat out his tongue, even the very inſtrument wherewith he blaſphemed God.

39. How common are theſe and ſuch like ſpeeches in too many peoples mouths: As the Devil take me if I do ſuch or ſuch things, God conſume me body and ſoul; or the plague, or the [illegible] take or rot me. And abundance of other helliſh Oaths: And vild wiſhes to them which I would have all perſons to avoid, as they Tender their Immortal ſouls welfare.

40. At *Wittenberg*, before *Martin Luther* and other learned Men, a Woman, whoſe Daughter was poſſeſſed with a Spirit, confeſſed by her curſe that Plague was fallen upon her: for being angry at a time, ſhe bad the Devil take her, and ſhe had no ſooner ſpoke the word but he took her indeed, and poſſeſſed her after a ſtrange ſort. Infinite examples I might mention more, as that of the cholerick Father that wiſhed that his Son might never ſtir from that place, it was no ſooner ſaid but done; his ſon ſtuck faſt to the place, and could never be removed during life which he continued with a poſt at his back four years, and ſo dyed.

41. The

41. The Romans were wont to have their funerals at the Gate of Rome, Temples to their Goddess Luck was the harbinger and harbour of death.

42. In Germany a Gentleman of note solicited a Citizens wife to uncleanness, which her husband being informed of, watcht them narrowly, that finding them in bed together, stabbed the Adulterer, and then his own wife.

43. Before Moses time it was a custom to burn the Adulterers in the fire, as appears by the case of Thamar; Gen. 38. 24. Prov. 6. 26. speaking of Whoredom, Women; Her breath is the [illegible] going down to the Chambers of Death.

44. How doth this Sin of Whoredom reign amongst us, that many boast of their shames, and are so hardened in this their Wickedness, that they go on to the utter destruction of Soul and Estate. Learn reader, O Whoremonger, and all filthy Harlots! that God will surely punish thee for this [illegible] God will bring thee to Judgment, and without Repentance, torment thee in Hell fire with Fire and Brimstone, where there is no redemption.

To conclude, let us learn by these sad and terrible examples to fear God, and take warning by them, and pray for Church and Kingdom, and his blessing upon our Children and Posterities, Amen.

FINIS.